1646





PATENT 600-1-287N

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

APPLICANT:

Wolfgang Liedtke et al.

SERIAL NO. :

10/027,828

EXAMINER:

Li, Ruixiang

FILED

October 25, 2001

ART UNIT

1646

FOR

VR-OAC, AN OSMOTICALLY ACTIVATED CHANNEL PROTEIN,

NUCLEIC ACIDS ENCODING IT, AND USES THEREOF

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 24, 2004.

Betty Shultz

(Name of Depositor)

(Signature and Date)

RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Communication dated March 4, 2004, issued in connection with the above-identified Application, which is now due for response on April 4, 2004, please consider the following remarks.